

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A method of calibrating a color reproduction apparatus which has a process for converting received digital color signals to uniquely-associated drive code values and to then produce an image rendering with color densities corresponding to the drive code values, the method comprising the steps of:

using the color reproduction apparatus to produce a calibration target having a plurality of color patches by using input code values which correspond to a sampling of color densities, wherein one subset of said color patches is intended to have neutral color density values and another subset of said color patches is intended to have non-neutral color density values deviating in their mix of red, green, and blue from each other;

measuring color densities of the color patches produced on said calibration target;

producing error signals characteristic of differences between measured color densities and intended color densities of (1) the patches intended to have neutral density values and (2) the patches intended to have non-neutral density values; and

adjusting the converting process of said reproduction apparatus as a function of said error signals so as to provide output color densities closer to the intended color densities.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said adjusting step comprises the step of determining a relationship between said color patches by performing data interpolation from at least three of said patches, wherein said at least three patches represent a sampling of red, green, blue and black color codes.

3. (canceled)

4. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of producing error signals comprises the step of determining target values of each of

a red density, a green density, and a blue density as a function of a red drive code value, a green drive code value, and a blue drive code value.

5. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said step of producing error signals comprises the step of determining target values of each of a red density, a green density and a blue density as a function of at least a red drive code value, a green drive code value, and a blue drive code value.

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (currently amended) A calibration system ~~according to Claim 7~~ comprising at least one first patch with a neutral density code value, at least one second patch having a red code value which is deviated from its neutral value, at least one third patch having a green code value which is deviated from its neutral value, and at least one fourth patch having a blue code value which is deviated from its neutral value, wherein said at least one second, third, and fourth patch code values are selected by:

designating a set of neutral points along a neutral axis in a three-dimensional density space whose axes corresponding to red, green and blue densities; and

for each neutral point, selecting four non-neutral points such that the four non-neutral points sit on a common plane wherein (1) the neutral axis is normal to the common plane, (2) the common plane is further out on the neutral axis than the corresponding neutral point, and (3) the four non-neutral points represent corners of a square in the common plane such that the square is centered on a point where the neutral axis intercepts the common plane, ~~and (4) all four non-neutral points are roughly equidistant from each other.~~

9. (canceled)

10. (canceled)

11. (canceled)

12. (canceled)